

JANUARY 2026 - SPRING 1 NEWSLETTER

Northenden Community School

Determination Ambition Equality

HAPPY NEW YEAR



Happy New Year, to everyone at Northenden Community School! We've had an eventful first week, with a very chilly start to the term and burst heating pipes in our Nursery classroom. We are all very proud of how adaptable the children in Early Years have been

with the disruption and hope to have everything back to normal very soon.

The start of a new year is an opportunity to reset and start anew. We encourage our families to take this chance to prioritise arriving to school on time, taking time to read regularly at home and completing any home learning set by the teacher.

PTA

Our PTA is always looking for new recruits. The events and money it raises has such a positive impact on our school community. Each event's success is dependent on how many people get involved. Soon, our PTA will be sharing information about the next AGM and needs a new treasurer. If you think you may be interested, or have any questions about the role please get in touch by emailing the PTA:

friends@northenden.manchester.sch.uk

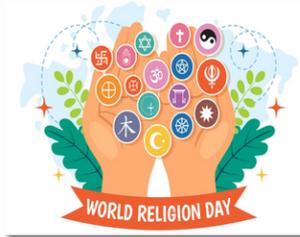
SAFER INTERNET DAY

Safer Internet Day 2026
Tuesday
10 February

The theme this year is 'Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI'. On this day, we will be exploring the impact of AI on all of our lives, looking at how AI can be used for good, and giving advice and guidance that empowers people to use AI safely and responsibly.

WORLD RELIGION DAY

World religion day is on **Sunday 18th January**. The aim of the day is to promote understanding and peace between all religions as well as mutual understanding and tolerance between people from different backgrounds.



Our school would like to use this fantastic opportunity to help children see it's okay if we have different beliefs. We want to co-exist peacefully and with mutual respect. We will be sharing and celebrating the different religions to which our children belong. Therefore, if you are able to spare any time during the **W/C 19th Jan**, to talk to your child's class about your religion then please speak with your child's class teacher to organise how this can be arranged.

NATIONAL STORY TELLING WEEK

Stories teach us about the world; they allow us to step into someone else's shoes and feel empathy; they help us to relax and escape and they can help develop essential literacy skills. We would be thrilled if parents, carers or other family members would be able to give up their time to come and share a story with their child's class. The children are always thrilled to have visitors and your time would be greatly appreciated. Please either speak with your child's class teacher or message our admin team.



ATTENDANCE

Northenden's attendance since September is **92.9%** which is considerably below the rest of Manchester, 94.7% and National, 95.1% with a collective **1,145** days missed from school.

Attendance is a primary indicator of a child's success and we will be prioritising attendance this term by following our attendance procedures closely. We all want the best for our children, therefore we must work together to help them attend every day to support their learning and foster a sense of belonging.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

- Sunday 18th January** - World Religion Day
- Friday 23rd January** - Coffee Morning at school
- 2nd - 8th February** - National story telling week
- Tuesday 10th February** - Safer Internet Day
- 9th - 15th February** - Children's Mental Health Week
- Friday 13th February** - 'Come as Yourself' day - Info below
- Friday 13th February** - Break for the half term holiday
- Monday 23rd February** - Open for Spring 2 term.



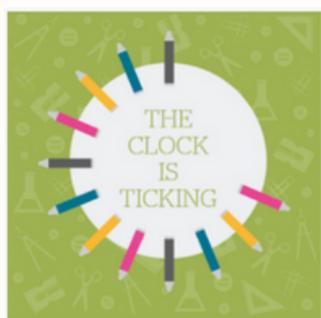
All key dates for the whole school and each class can be found on our [Website Calendar](#) and on the *reachmoreparents* app calendar.

If you haven't already, we encourage you to download our communication app as it is a great way to get updates about what your children have been learning, as well as reminders about events as we appreciate everyone's lives are very busy.

STAFFING UPDATE

We are delighted to welcome Lisa Lyth our new administrative officer to the Northenden staff team. I'm sure many of you will have already spoken to her either on the phone or at reception in the morning. Lisa is settling in brilliantly. Many of you have asked 'Where's Sophie?', so I want to reassure you she is still with us! However, she has now taken on the role of office manager and will be in the room next to our reception desk.

Reception 2026



Don't leave it too late.
Apply for your child's primary school place by 15 January 2026.
manchester.gov.uk/admissions

For more information and to make your application, visit [Manchester School Admissions](#)

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

Children's Mental Health Week will take place from **9th - 15th February 2026** and the theme this year is, 'This is My Place', with the aim being to support the systems around children to help them feel they belong.

In school, we have focused heavily on creating a sense of belonging and connection. We will be using this opportunity to discuss this concept further, exploring how the children currently feel and how we can make our school feel an even more inclusive and nurturing environment. We encourage you to discuss this idea further with your children at home.



On **Friday 13th February**, we will be inviting all children to take part in our 'Come as yourself' day, whether cosy clothes, cultural dress, favourite colours or something totally unique they can wear whatever they want to celebrate, 'What makes you, you!'.

COFFEE MORNING

This half term's coffee morning will be on **Friday 23rd January**. Of the coffee mornings we have had so far this year, those that have been able to attend have said that they found the information shared very useful and we hope even more families are able to attend. Families are invited to come to the after school club room after dropping off their child at school and the session normally runs until roughly 9.30am.

We will send reminders leading up to the morning and hope to see as many of you there as possible.



UNIFORM

Northenden Community School – School Uniform		
School Uniform		
Red Polo Shirt	Navy Blue Jumper	Navy Blue Cardigan
Navy Blue Fleece	Black, Grey or Navy Flatcap	Black, Grey or Navy Skirt

All children are expected to wear the correct school school uniform. If you are unsure of what these expectations are, please look

at the pdf guidance on our website [School uniform website page](#).

If you have any uniform that your child has grown out of that you would like to donate to school, please take it to the school office as we try to help families who need items of uniform when we can. We particularly need Early Years size clothing and also PE kits for all ages. Thank you in advance for your support with this.